

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, APRIL 1973 (PRELIMINARY)

This bulletin contains statistics of industrial disputes for the month of April 1973 and some previous periods. More information about these disputes will appear later in the detailed quarterly mimeograph *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are now compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in the Bureau publication *Australian Standard Industrial Classification (Preliminary Edition)*, 1969, Vol. 1. Statistics on this basis for the years 1968 to 1972 and March quarter 1973 are published for the first time in the March quarter 1973 bulletin (Reference No. 6.6) which also contains details of the major changes that have resulted from the adoption of ASIC (see paragraph 16 on page 4 of that bulletin). The major changes to the industry classification used in the monthly bulletins are set out in paragraph 6 on page 2 of this bulletin. Because of these and other changes in industry classification the statistics shown in Table 2 of this bulletin are not directly comparable with similar statistics appearing in previous monthly bulletins, in quarterly bulletins prior to March 1973, and in *Labour Report* No. 56, 1971 (and earlier issues).

3. The statistics of industrial disputes refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are employees thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred but not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may be estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work at different points of time and at different establishments due to the same cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State. A dispute involving workers in more than one industry in a State or Territory is counted once only in the number of disputes – in the industry that has the largest number of workers involved; but workers involved, working days lost and estimated loss in wages are allocated to their respective industries. Disputes not settled at the end of a year are included as new disputes in the figures for the following year. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

5. For statistics of industrial disputes for earlier periods see *Labour Report* No. 56, 1971 (Reference No. 6.7). However, statistics of disputes classified by industries shown in that and earlier issues of the *Labour Report* are not directly comparable with the statistics classified by industry shown in this bulletin (see paragraph 6, page 2).

TABLE 1. – INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost (a) ('000)	Estimated loss in wages (a) (\$'000)
	Beginning in month	Total (a)	Beginning in month	Total (a)		
1968	..	1,713	..	720.3	1,079.5	12,115.2
1969	..	2,014	..	1,285.2	1,958.0	22,985.7
1970	..	2,738	..	1,367.4	2,393.7	30,883.3
1971	..	2,404	..	1,326.5	3,068.6	45,241.3
1972	..	2,298	..	1,113.8	2,010.3	32,074.4
1972 –						
April	197	202	81.7	81.8	122.2	1,733.1
May	292	315	206.4	213.2	266.6	4,189.3
June	219	241	75.8	79.9	167.9	2,616.2
July	229	236	75.4	77.6	244.5	4,111.0
August	195	233	220.7	235.3	356.0	5,651.9
September	185	199	112.1	214.6	188.9	3,040.5
October	207	213	77.5	80.7	137.2	2,303.5
November	210	230	77.8	83.7	170.8	2,777.6
December	109	121	24.2	29.0	53.2	933.7
1973 –						
January	153	153	39.9	39.9	82.1	1,365.7
February	278	290	59.2	66.8	248.4	4,095.9
March	r268	r300	r73.9	r82.7	r231.7	r3,941.6
April (b)	146	155	75.9	78.7	192.0	3,134.2
1972 : January to April	..	652	..	243.8	425.2	6,450.7
1973 : January to April (b)	..	845	..	248.8	754.3	12,537.4

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period – see paragraph 4, above. (b) Subject to revision. r – revised.

Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC)

6. The following table shows the ASIC industry classification now adopted for the compilation and publication of industrial dispute statistics in these monthly bulletins (see also paragraph 2, page 1), and a comparison of this classification with the previous industry classification. The major changes that have resulted from the adoption of ASIC are the reclassification of – *electricity and gas* from *other manufacturing* to *other industries*; *water, sewerage and drainage* from *building and construction* to *other industries*; and *communication* from *other industries* to *transport and storage*; *communication*. Apart from these major differences between the two classifications there are other differences. The placing of two similar industries opposite each other in the following table does not mean that these two industries are comparable in scope. For example, the ASIC industry *metal products, machinery and equipment* (ASIC sub-divisions 29, 31, 32, 33) is not strictly comparable with the previous industry group, *engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.* A more detailed description of the ASIC industries used in the compilation of these statistics appears in the March quarter 1973 issue of *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6). Because of these classification changes the statistics by industry shown in Table 2 of this bulletin are not directly comparable with the industry groupings shown in previous issues of the monthly bulletins, in issues of the quarterly bulletin prior to March 1973, and in *Labour Report* No. 56, 1971 (and earlier issues). The figures in Table 2 are directly comparable with those classified by industry in the March quarter 1973 bulletin except that they are published in less industry detail. Statistics of industrial disputes classified by ASIC industries for each State and Australia for the years 1968 to 1972 and for the March quarter 1973 are published in the March quarter 1973 issue of *Industrial Disputes* (Reference No. 6.6).

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES – COMPARISON OF ASIC AND PREVIOUS INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION

ASIC code		ASIC industry	Previous industry classification
Division	Sub-division		
B	12	Mining –	Mining and quarrying –
	11, 13, 14, 15, 16	Coal	Coal mining
C		Other	Other
	29, 31, 32, 33	Manufacturing –	Manufacturing –
	21-22, 23 to 28, 34	Metal products, machinery and equipment	Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.
E	41, 42	Other (a)	Other (b)
G, H		Construction (c)	Building and construction (d)
		Transport and storage;	Transport –
		communication –	
	Class 5302	Stevedoring services	Stevedoring
	51, 52, 53 (except Class 5302), 54, 55, 56	Other (e)	Other (f)
A, D } F, I } J, K, L }		Other industries (g)	Other industry groups (h)
		All industries	All industry groups

(a) Excludes electricity and gas. (b) Includes electricity and gas. (c) Excludes water, sewerage and drainage. (d) Includes water, sewerage and drainage. (e) Includes communication. (f) Excludes communication. (g) Includes electricity, gas and water. Excludes communication. (h) Excludes electricity and gas; water, sewerage and drainage. Includes communication.

TABLE 2. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : INDUSTRIES (a), AUSTRALIA
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (b)

Period	Manufacturing				Transport and storage; communication		Other industries	All industries	
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment (c)	Other	Construction	Stevedoring services			Other
	Coal	Other							
1968	61.1	67.7	423.5	116.1	118.3	77.3	155.7	59.7	1,079.5
1969	76.1	76.9	643.6	267.1	264.4	136.2	286.4	207.3	1,958.0
1970	178.4	76.5	625.9	440.9	618.3	148.3	156.7	148.8	2,393.7
1971	251.6	83.2	636.7	317.7	1,109.5	73.9	300.1	295.9	3,068.6
1972	60.8	62.0	620.2	393.7	407.8	39.2	205.2	221.3	2,010.3
1970 -									
January	4.3	1.7	19.2	17.4	8.7	2.0	0.2	15.0	68.5
February	12.3	0.1	40.3	13.2	11.0	15.4	14.7	3.2	110.4
March	30.0	0.8	78.2	16.1	19.4	51.7	6.4	7.0	209.7
April	30.9	2.3	51.1	24.6	20.5	19.9	4.8	4.3	158.3
May	47.6	7.1	38.6	43.0	228.8	6.2	35.8	18.3	425.4
June	5.8	5.0	59.9	16.9	65.8	5.6	12.1	4.7	175.6
July	3.7	16.3	85.3	34.4	11.3	7.8	13.7	18.5	191.1
August	25.5	3.3	105.4	98.1	39.1	11.3	25.5	24.3	332.5
September	4.6	6.4	34.1	60.6	6.4	11.9	4.9	14.6	143.5
October	3.6	9.0	57.8	51.2	82.4	3.4	7.9	4.9	220.2
November	8.4	17.6	47.2	48.1	84.7	6.2	19.3	16.3	247.7
December	1.7	6.9	8.6	17.3	40.2	7.0	11.4	17.6	110.9
1971 -									
January	0.7	0.7	14.2	16.5	3.2	9.2	36.2	4.7	85.3
February	7.5	0.5	37.6	12.5	68.9	4.4	4.1	3.0	138.6
March	45.3	4.2	38.9	11.7	34.7	3.0	13.6	27.8	179.0
April	0.8	29.8	12.1	27.8	20.7	8.9	7.8	48.5	156.4
May	7.0	8.1	87.6	24.8	507.0	4.6	3.0	6.1	648.1
June	19.7	5.1	30.0	22.6	9.3	13.6	8.9	11.8	121.1
July	50.7	4.6	271.9	46.0	60.4	19.1	43.8	20.2	516.7
August	54.8	5.5	48.4	28.6	127.7	3.7	74.1	15.1	358.0
September	44.4	10.9	24.9	36.6	233.0	1.1	3.2	55.3	409.4
October	4.4	8.1	42.7	55.0	17.4	2.5	12.2	12.2	154.4
November	14.2	1.4	20.9	22.8	18.2	2.3	22.8	7.1	109.7
December	2.2	4.4	7.4	13.0	8.9	1.4	70.3	84.2	191.8
1972 -									
January	2.0	7.1	10.0	21.0	2.1	0.7	2.2	8.7	53.8
February	5.3	3.8	20.2	15.8	37.0	3.2	2.6	44.3	132.3
March	2.1	15.5	22.5	18.9	11.2	2.5	8.8	35.5	116.9
April	10.2	0.3	12.6	19.7	14.0	4.5	39.5	21.4	122.2
May	5.2	1.3	121.9	66.5	28.2	3.3	5.2	35.0	266.6
June	10.9	10.0	31.8	24.8	13.8	9.8	61.7	5.2	167.9
July	4.6	2.3	67.2	46.5	96.1	4.8	5.5	17.4	244.5
August	4.3	2.1	136.9	66.0	100.5	1.7	39.5	5.0	356.0
September	5.5	9.0	118.0	22.4	24.4	1.1	5.4	3.2	188.9
October	4.6	5.2	33.7	24.9	43.5	3.4	5.3	16.7	137.2
November	5.2	4.2	33.5	52.9	33.5	1.4	20.3	19.8	170.8
December	1.1	1.2	11.9	14.3	3.4	3.0	9.3	9.2	53.2
1973 -									
January	1.4	7.6	9.8	34.6	6.5	4.2	6.6	11.6	82.1
February	8.4	11.5	37.5	133.3	23.2	1.5	14.9	18.0	248.4
March	14.5	33.8	39.0	69.9	16.0	7.1	12.3	39.1	231.7
April (d)	5.0	17.4	34.4	96.2	15.6	1.4	3.4	18.7	192.0
1972 : January to April									
1972 : January to April	19.5	26.7	65.3	75.5	64.4	10.8	53.1	109.9	425.2
1973 : January to April (d)	29.3	70.3	120.6	334.0	61.4	14.2	37.1	87.4	754.3

(a) Australian Standard Industrial Classification - see paragraph 6, page 2. (b) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (c) Includes ASIC sub-divisions 29, 31, 32, 33. (d) Subject to revision. r - revised.

NOTE. The figures in this table are not comparable with those published in earlier issues of this bulletin (see paragraph 6, page 2).

TABLE 3. - INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : STATES
WORKING DAYS LOST ('000) (a)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (b)
1968	583.4	243.9	158.6	51.1	21.8	13.0	1,079.5
1969	743.8	717.2	238.6	129.0	101.4	9.9	1,958.0
1970	1,393.6	510.8	179.2	93.1	141.1	32.2	2,393.7
1971	1,887.5	689.6	271.4	111.2	69.4	20.6	3,068.6
1972	866.8	638.4	292.2	60.9	94.6	19.2	2,010.3
1970 -							
January	34.4	23.7	4.8	0.2	4.8	0.1	68.5
February	62.2	21.1	8.4	2.9	14.0	0.7	110.4
March	121.4	27.9	14.6	18.0	22.0	3.7	209.7
April	84.7	38.4	10.3	13.2	6.0	3.0	158.3
May	298.2	67.2	33.7	13.8	8.4	0.8	425.4
June	118.3	26.8	17.2	3.7	5.8	0.8	175.6
July	107.1	33.6	12.8	12.0	17.2	1.2	191.1
August	213.5	60.4	31.1	10.9	4.3	7.7	332.5
September	89.9	29.2	8.0	3.4	1.4	6.5	143.5
October	150.1	38.3	14.9	6.9	6.7	0.7	220.2
November	89.4	91.0	14.5	5.9	41.7	1.4	247.7
December	24.5	53.2	8.7	2.4	8.9	5.6	110.9
1971 -							
January	56.8	14.1	9.1	4.4	0.7	..	85.3
February	86.5	25.5	19.2	1.7	4.1	0.8	138.6
March	108.2	35.9	21.2	2.2	4.0	3.6	179.0
April	101.6	32.1	16.9	1.6	1.8	2.3	156.4
May	580.0	31.7	9.3	13.0	9.0	0.3	648.1
June	57.9	28.9	14.9	7.0	10.5	1.1	121.1
July	211.2	147.4	104.9	41.8	5.1	3.7	516.7
August	146.9	156.5	23.5	13.4	11.2	2.2	358.0
September	345.3	22.0	17.7	10.2	9.5	3.6	409.4
October	48.7	78.4	16.4	5.6	2.9	2.2	154.4
November	69.8	17.3	8.9	9.4	3.6	0.4	109.7
December	74.4	99.7	9.5	0.8	6.9	0.4	191.8
1972 -							
January	18.0	22.6	5.8	0.4	6.5	0.5	53.8
February	32.7	58.3	15.4	3.7	4.6	1.9	132.3
March	55.2	22.2	20.0	0.3	16.1	2.6	116.9
April	41.5	56.9	15.2	4.8	1.7	0.8	122.2
May	133.7	78.2	24.9	8.8	13.2	2.5	266.6
June	54.9	60.1	26.9	5.2	18.5	1.6	167.9
July	104.7	85.3	33.5	10.0	8.8	0.2	244.5
August	187.3	106.2	32.0	11.5	12.2	4.1	356.0
September	98.4	52.2	21.0	5.0	9.1	0.3	188.9
October	58.7	20.2	46.1	5.8	0.4	2.3	137.2
November	59.2	58.3	44.8	2.7	1.2	1.4	170.8
December	22.5	17.9	6.4	2.7	2.3	1.1	53.2
1973 -							
January	32.8	11.2	4.1	2.6	7.9	19.1	82.1
February	87.0	86.6	16.7	14.7	7.7	33.5	248.4
March	110.0	147.4	18.8	15.2	10.2	28.5	231.7
April (c)	42.9	92.8	18.2	5.7	11.7	9.5	192.0
1972 : January to April	147.4	159.9	56.5	9.2	28.9	5.8	425.2
1973 : January to April (c)	272.8	237.9	57.7	38.2	37.6	90.7	754.3

(a) Refers to all disputes operative in the period - see paragraph 4, page 1. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) Subject to revision. r - revised.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr G. Laurie on 63 9111 extension 2055 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.